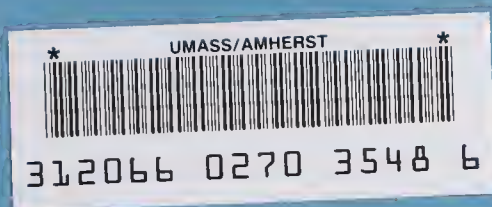


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Guide to Writing a Business Plan

Produced by the Massachusetts Office of Business Development



MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Guide to Writing a Business Plan

This guide will assist in writing a business plan. Additionally, this guide attempts to cover all types of businesses and therefore covers a broad base of subject matter and general concepts. In some cases the information that is requested may not seem applicable to your business. For instance, if you're being asked for manufacturing requirements to assemble products and the plan is being written for a service company, simply include the equipment necessary to provide the service. Each company is unique and should have an individually tailored business plan that will reflect the objectives of the entrepreneur and give the reader the overall concept of the business.

Business Plan Objective

The business plan is a selling document. It should demonstrate that a business can sell enough of its products or services to generate a profit and should attract investors or lenders. The business plan should also assist the entrepreneur in planning for all aspects of starting or growing his or her business. It is important to take the time to demonstrate how much you know about the business and walk through each step of the planning process. To reach the goals and objectives of the business plan it is extremely helpful to set timelines and describe specific benchmarks that should be met.

Full Disclosure

Most business plan readers, particularly potential investors, read any business plan with skepticism. Therefore, the plan must clearly disclose all information relevant to the company, its business, management, products, and accounts. The reader should not be surprised by additional information or discover that the plan withheld contentious points or potentially negative information that is critical to analyzing and assessing the risks inherent to an industry, or the company specifically. Give the reader an honest story and disclose all necessary information which would affect any owner or involve any potential investor.

Physical Characteristics of the Plan

A complete plan should be approximately 40 pages and fully explore the issues involved in the business. It should answer the basic questions: Who are you? What are you trying to do? How are you going to do it? How much will it cost? A

complete plan is used in seeking total financing, including equity as well as debt.

A condensed version of the plan may be scaled down to 10 pages and briefly summarize each subject covered in the complete plan. This shortened version is an elaborated executive summary and may be used as a preliminary request for information, or for seeking a single bank loan, or for review by individuals who are already familiar with the company.

Presentation counts. The document should project professionalism, have an appealing look, be easy to read, be well organized and follow a logical progression. As a selling document it also will reflect the style of the management, so pay attention to small details. Cosmetics, format, and packaging will be requirements to attract potential investors.

There is no right way to organize a business plan, but there are many pitfalls that should be avoided. Listed below are a few of the most common mistakes in business plan writing:

- The writing is unclear and difficult to understand.
- Too long. Get to the point, support it with facts where necessary, and move on. Beware: simply binding pounds of information together is not a good business plan.
- Poor layout. The layout should be logical and can be enhanced by including illustrations, pictures of products, or graphs.
- Omission of an executive summary.
- Too much technical jargon. Define product features in layman's terms. Clearly define user benefits and explain why someone would want to buy the product or service.
- Insufficient detail on the qualifications of management.
- Market ignorance. Lack of knowledge of the customer and of what it wants or needs.
- No competition. Worse than stating that there is no competition is to show a superficial review of the competition.
- Creative accounting format. Do not make up a style to present financial information: use standard format.
- No reason to invest. Give a compelling reason to invest NOW.

SAMPLE BUSINESS PLAN OUTLINE

The cover page must include the company name, and accessible telephone or fax numbers as well as an e-mail address. Also include any disclaimers of confidentiality if necessary.

- I.** Table of Contents
- II.** Executive Summary
- III.** Description of the Company
- IV.** Management
- V.** Product/Service
- VI.** Description of the Market
 - Market Research and Analysis
 - Marketing Plan
- VII.** Competition
- VIII.** Operating Plan
- IX.** Financial Information
 - Historical Financial Data
 - Assumptions
 - Five-Year Projections
 - Use of Proceeds
- X.** Risks
- XI.** Benchmarks/Milestones
- XII.** Appendix

IN PREPARATION OF WRITING

Pay attention to the "voice" when discussing the company (i.e., use either "our company..., we plan to..." or "the company..., they plan to..."). Choose one and be consistent.

I. Table Of Contents

List the sections of the plan as they are listed above with the appropriate page numbers. Tabs make it easier for the reader to flip to a specific section and are cosmetically appealing. Make sure the pages line up with the numbers on the Table of Contents. One page maximum.

II. Executive Summary

The executive summary is the MOST IMPORTANT SECTION and is absolutely necessary. It should be no longer than two pages, and should be written last. The executive summary is a condensed version of the ENTIRE business plan. It is more than just a

corporate introduction or background summary. If the reader were to receive only these two pages, he/she should be able to understand what the business plan contains, its purpose, and what the company wants. This should include the snapshot of the financials. Specify how much money is required and to what use it will be put.

If the executive summary is effectively written, it will:

- Establish credibility by highlighting management;
- Describe the product or service and how it will be sold;
- Explain the need and show proof of concept;
- Inform the reader of critical benchmarks;
- Show the company's vision of the future;
- Ask for the appropriate amount of money and present a defensible case for such a request; and
- Make the reader want to read the complete business plan.

III. Description Of the company

Consider using a story format. Define basic information such as whether the entity is a corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship; who owns it; and how long it has been in business. List where it is located, number of employees, and the current stage of its development and what kind of products or services the company currently provides. Include the overall strategy and acknowledge some of the company's key success factors. Describe the company's objectives and goals. Be clear about the company's ability to meet these goals – the objectives and goals should be realistic given the company's resources and the purpose of this business plan.

IV. Management

Investors consider management one of the most important reasons to invest in a company. Most readers will be investing in the management and its ability to perform. The entrepreneur and owner must objectively review the company's strengths and weaknesses and assess the company's future management and staffing requirements. Include a brief paragraph describing each member of the staff. If appropriate, include an organizational chart and employment policies. Can the plan be executed with the existing management? Can management prove that they can accomplish the task at hand? Additionally, list members of the Board of Directors, advisors, technical or scientific advisory panel members.

V. Product/Service

Describe the specifications and capabilities of

the product or service. Resist the temptation to use too much technical jargon. Keep the language in basic layman's terms. This serves two purposes: it enables the layperson to follow the description, and it highlights the basic concepts behind the product or service. While describing the product or service, point out any beneficial features; e.g. it's faster, it's less expensive, it lasts longer. This is a good place to point out the manufacturing requirements for the product, and what elements go into making the product or rendering the service. Include necessary discussions on any government regulations required to operate; e.g. environmental regulations, FDA, special permits, licensing, or relations with other regulatory bodies that oversee current business operations. It is helpful to include photographs, catalogues, brochures, professional drawings or renditions of the product. If the product or service has been supported by existing customers or there are third-party endorsements or experts who recommend its use, include these testimonials.

VI. Description of the Market

Market Research And Analysis

Marketing Plan

This section should be the most detailed section of the plan because it defines specifically how you intend to execute the plan. Define the overall market and identify which piece of the marketplace the company intends to penetrate. Explain why you have chosen this market research for your product or service, and what market research was used to support the choice. Show that management fully understands the marketplace.

Once the marketplace has been outlined, establish whether this marketplace is either "static" or "growing." If it is static, that means the company is going to be stealing customers from their existing suppliers, which leads to the question of - Why would the customer want to switch brands and buy another? If the marketplace is growing or dynamic, explain why existing supply cannot keep up with demand. For either option, show that there are enough customers for the product or service to warrant the sales level that you are projecting. Then demonstrate the company's knowledge of who they believe to be their customers. Explain criteria and qualifications for the existing target market, and identify requirements or restrictions. Finally, having discovered and analyzed all of the above, the company is in a position to discuss how it will penetrate the marketplace. It is important to note that marketing strategies and techniques vary greatly from industry to industry.

A complete discussion of the marketplace

should include at least the following points.

- **Establish Demand by Defining the Opportunities**

Go beyond identifying the primary market. Include secondary markets and potential additional revenue streams.

- **Market Research**

Whether formal or informal, it is imperative to show the source and extent of data used to determine market definition. Needless to say a few newspaper or magazine articles do not constitute market research.

- **Market Penetration**

While it is unrealistic to claim 100% of any market, it is realistic to explain a marketing strategy to capture a portion of the marketplace. It would be wise to have Plan A as well as Plan B to show the depth of thought toward alternative strategies to accomplish goals should unforeseen circumstances impact Plan A.

- **Projections**

The ability to generate revenues should be addressed briefly in the marketing section. This information will be reiterated and expanded in the financial section of the plan, but some details should be spelled out in this section.

- **Additional Factors**

Pricing strategy, public relations and advertising campaign, location, financial requirements, government regulation, international exposure, channels of distribution, sales quotas, incentives and operating ratios to track business, and identifiable trends in the industry.

VII. Competition

Each company will be faced with competition and other external factors over which management has no control. Be specific in identifying other companies or products and services that compete head to head with your company for the same customer. Profile these competitors and include a description of their product or service. What is the advantage of your product over theirs? Answer questions about how easy it is to duplicate and how much lead time a company has ahead of possible copies. Keeping a close handle on these external forces of influence will help in future planning.

VIII. Operating Plan

Summarize the operating plan by describing how the business creates its product or service. What is the production process, and what are the manufacturing requirements? Are there labor and maintenance cost considerations? How will you

plan scheduling? How will customers pick up and receive items? Can you include a flow chart to diagram control of operations? Are there any specific regulations or forms to fill out such as RFPs? Is the company in the research and development phase or is it ready to ship product? Address the physical requirements such as plant size, location, amount of machinery, and number of operating personnel to produce the product or service. Explain the process of engineering the product or its packaging. Is this function going to be in-house or are you going to have it done by sub-contractors? What suppliers or vendors are required? Are there key relationships that should be mentioned? Does the company need hard-to-acquire parts or depend on any sole supplier? Note the procedures that will be used for quality control and the steps necessary to ensure customer satisfaction. Outline the steps used for customer service and additional product support or return policy. In general, describe how the company will physically be able to execute the plan.

IX. Financial Information

Historical Financial Data

Assumptions

Five-Year Projections

Use of Proceeds

By presenting financial information, a company shows what its growth prospects are, so that an investor can calculate the potential return or a banker can determine the coverage for a proposed loan. It should be made clear from these financial schedules how much money will be needed to achieve planned goals and how and when the entrepreneur can pay back the lenders/investors. Beginning with reliable data and solid, defensible assumptions, the business plan can ultimately be told in the form of financial projections. This overview will reveal the potential bottom-line outcome of the operation. It is advisable to review financial information and additional financial scenarios carefully to ensure accuracy, particularly with early stage companies.

The financial information that investors/bankers consider important are balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow analysis. If the company has historical financial data, it is advisable to include up to three years of financial history of the company. Projecting forward, regardless of whether the company is an existing one or a start-up, the financial data should include each one of the three schedules just mentioned to show a first-year projection detailed by month, then a second-year projection detailed by quarter and, finally, a third-to fifth-year projection detailed annually. There

will be assumptions used in putting the schedules together – level of sales growth, level of expenses, interest rates, etc. Establish and display these assumptions at the outset so that the reader knows how these schedules have been put together. Sample forms of these schedules are included at the back of this outline. Included is a suggested form of source and use of funds which will show the investor how the money that is raised will be spent.

X. Risks

Management should demonstrate its ability to handle adverse situations and deal with unanticipated problems. Initially, business owners should, to the best of their ability, disclose major risks and pertinent information that might influence or affect the lender or investors, such as regulatory hurdles (EPA, FDA). What happens if the assumptions are not correct or the growth targets not met? Showing an anticipation of all possible eventualities, good and bad, makes the plan more credible.

XI. Benchmarks/Milestones

Use a timeline, graphs, charts, or diagrams to express how the company anticipates executing the plan. Explain priorities or steps involved in order for the product to be made or service to be provided. List management projects that must be completed to be successful. Include events such as holiday selling periods, back-to-school deadlines, vendor/supplier annual events, seasonality, etc.

XII. Appendix

Include any supporting information in this section, such as resumes. Make reference to the material in the body of plan.

Sample Balance Sheet

| | Current Year | Forecasted Periods |
|---|--------------|--------------------|
| Current Assets Assets | \$ | \$ |
| Cash (Note) | | |
| Accounts Receivable (Note) | | |
| Inventory (Note) | | |
| Prepaid Expenses | | |
| Total Current Assets | | |
| Property Equipment (Note) | | |
| Equipment | | |
| Office Furniture and Fixings | | |
| Leasehold Improvements | | |
| Less - Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization | | |
| Other Assets | | |
| Organization Costs, Net of Accumulated Amortization (Note) | \$ | \$ |
| Current Liabilities Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | \$ | \$ |
| Current portion of long-term obligations | | |
| Accounts Payable (Note) | | |
| Accrued Expenses | | |
| Federal and State Income Taxes Payable | | |
| Total Current Liabilities | | |
| Long-Term Obligations (Note) | | |
| Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Common stock, no Par Value | | |
| Authorized - shares | | |
| Issued and Outstanding - Shares | | |
| Retained Earnings (Accumulated Deficit) | | |
| | \$ | \$ |

A business plan should include the current year's financial results and forecasted financial statements that include significant forecasted assumptions (sample included). The forecasted financial statements should be presented for a minimum of three years with five years preferred. The forecast should be presented monthly for year one, quarterly or monthly for year two, and annually for all subsequent forecasted periods.

Practical Note: Total liabilities and stockholders' equity should equal total assets.

Practical Note: Ending retained earnings should agree with the ending retained earnings number on the balance sheet.

Sample Forecasted Statements of Income and Retained Earnings

| | Current Year | Forecasted Periods |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Revenue (Note) | \$ | \$ |
| Cost of Sales (Note) | | |
| Salaries and Wages | | |
| Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits | | |
| Product Costs | | |
| Rent Expense | | |
| Equipment Lease | | |
| Utilities | | |
| Depreciation and Amortization | | |
| Total Operating Expenses | | |
| Gross Margin (deficit) | | |
| Selling, General and Administrative Expenses (Note) | | |
| Advertising | | |
| Administrative | | |
| Salaries and Wages | | |
| Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits | | |
| Commissions | | |
| Insurance | | |
| Depreciation and Amortization | | |
| Total Selling, General and Administrative Expenses | | |
| Income from Operations | | |
| Other (Income) Expenses | | |
| Interest Expense | | |
| Interest Income | | |
| Total Other (Income) Expenses | | |
| Income Before Provision of Income Taxes | | |
| Provision for Income Taxes (Note) | | |
| Current Federal and State Income Taxes | | |
| Net Income (loss) | | |
| Retained Earnings, Beginning of Period | | |
| Retained Earnings, End of Period | \$ | \$ |

Sample – Source and Use of Funds

Sources of Funds

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Proceeds from the state of series B preferred stock | \$3,000,000 |
|---|-------------|

Uses of Funds

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Administrative and Office Expenses | \$ 400,000 |
| Marketing | \$ 635,000 |
| Product Development | \$ 780,000 |
| Equipment | \$ 350,000 |
| Patent and Licensing | \$ 300,000 |
| Offering Expenses | \$ 60,000 |
| Placement Agency Fee | \$ 240,000 |
| Working Capital | \$ 235,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$3,000,000 |

The placement agency fee of \$240,000 represents a commission of 8% of the total capital raised. The offering expenses of \$60,000 are for legal, accounting and other professional fees relating to the preparation of this memorandum.

Sample – Forecasted Balance Sheets

Current assets:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Cash (Note 1) | \$489,380 | \$479,120 | \$471,100 | \$464,750 | \$458,805 | \$455,226 | \$425,349 | \$420,168 | \$404,259 | \$407,852 | \$417,220 | \$445,839 | \$563,360 | \$920,212 | \$1,744,347 | \$3,114,045 |
| Accounts receivable (Note 6) | 3,750 | 6,500 | 9,250 | 13,000 | 18,500 | 24,500 | 32,000 | 41,500 | 49,350 | 59,550 | 71,700 | 77,600 | 81,000 | 142,000 | 228,000 | 319,000 |
| Inventory (Note 1) | 2,100 | 3,000 | 4,200 | 6,000 | 7,800 | 10,200 | 13,200 | 17,100 | 20,400 | 24,600 | 29,400 | 32,550 | 40,700 | 71,200 | 113,900 | 159,500 |
| Prepaid expenses | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,000 | 4,500 | 6,000 | 7,500 |
| Total current assets | 496,730 | 490,120 | 486,050 | 484,750 | 486,105 | 490,926 | 471,049 | 479,268 | 474,509 | 492,002 | 518,320 | 555,989 | 688,060 | 1,137,912 | 2,092,247 | 3,600,045 |

Property and equipment (Notes 1, 3 and 6):

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Equipment | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 100,000 | 150,000 | 200,000 | 250,000 |
| Office furniture and fixtures | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 10,000 | 15,000 | 20,000 | 25,000 |
| Leasehold improvements | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 16,000 | 16,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 40,000 | 60,000 | 80,000 | 100,000 |
| Less - Accumulated depreciation and amortization | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 82,500 | 82,500 | 82,500 | 82,500 | 150,000 | 225,000 | 300,000 | 375,000 |
| | 310 | 620 | 930 | 1,240 | 1,550 | 1,860 | 2,360 | 2,860 | 3,550 | 4,240 | 4,930 | 5,620 | 6,310 | 12,620 | 18,930 | 25,240 | 31,550 |
| | 37,190 | 36,880 | 36,570 | 36,260 | 35,950 | 35,640 | 35,330 | 57,640 | 57,140 | 78,950 | 78,260 | 77,570 | 76,880 | 129,380 | 181,880 | 226,880 | 264,380 |

Other assets:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Organization costs, net of accumulated amortization (Note 1) | 60,000 | 59,000 | 58,000 | 57,000 | 56,000 | 55,000 | 54,000 | 53,000 | 52,000 | 51,000 | 50,000 | 49,000 | 48,000 | 37,000 | 25,000 | 13,000 | 1,000 |
| | \$593,920 | \$586,000 | \$580,620 | \$578,010 | \$578,055 | \$581,566 | \$582,689 | \$589,408 | \$605,459 | \$621,262 | \$645,890 | \$681,869 | \$854,440 | \$1,344,792 | \$2,332,127 | \$3,865,425 | |

Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity

Current liabilities:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| Current maturities of long-term obligations | \$23,466 | \$26,296 | \$29,150 | \$32,029 | \$33,239 | \$33,530 | \$33,824 | \$34,120 | \$34,418 | \$34,720 | \$35,023 | \$35,329 | \$39,223 | \$43,546 | \$48,345 | \$12,896 | |
| Accounts payable (Note 6) | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,600 | 3,500 | 4,200 | 5,200 | 7,600 | 8,900 | 11,000 | 13,400 | 15,400 | 18,000 | 21,400 | 30,600 | 39,400 | 46,700 | |
| Accrued expenses | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 700 | 1,300 | 1,300 | 1,300 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 3,100 | 4,300 | 5,400 | 6,200 | |
| Federal and state income taxes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 1,200 | 1,400 | 3,000 | 6,300 | 9,400 | 14,500 | 21,700 | 31,400 | 78,650 | 157,100 | 247,225 | |
| Total current liabilities | 26,166 | 28,996 | 32,450 | 36,229 | 38,339 | 40,630 | 44,124 | 47,320 | 53,018 | 59,520 | 66,923 | 77,029 | 95,123 | 157,096 | 250,245 | 313,021 | |

Long-term obligations (Note 6)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---|--|
| | 176,534 | 173,704 | 170,850 | 167,971 | 165,066 | 162,136 | 159,180 | 156,198 | 153,191 | 150,157 | 147,097 | 144,010 | 104,787 | 61,241 | 12,896 | 0 | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---|--|

Stockholders' equity:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| Common stock, no par value | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 | |
| Authorized - 500,000 shares | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Issued and outstanding - 250,000 shares | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | (8,780) | (16,700) | (22,680) | (26,190) | (25,350) | (21,200) | (20,615) | (14,110) | (750) | 11,585 | 31,870 | 60,830 | 254,530 | 726,455 | 1,666,986 | 3,152,404 | |
| | 391,220 | 383,300 | 377,320 | 373,810 | 374,650 | 378,800 | 379,385 | 385,890 | 399,250 | 411,585 | 431,870 | 460,830 | 654,530 | 1,126,455 | 2,066,986 | 3,552,404 | |
| | \$593,920 | \$586,000 | \$580,620 | \$578,010 | \$578,055 | \$581,566 | \$582,689 | \$589,408 | \$605,459 | \$621,262 | \$645,890 | \$681,869 | \$854,440 | \$1,344,792 | \$2,332,127 | \$3,865,425 | |

Sample – Forecasted Statements of Income and Retained Earnings

| | Year Ending | | | | | | | | | | | | Year Ending | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1/31/96 | 2/28/96 | 3/31/96 | 4/30/96 | 5/31/96 | 6/30/96 | 7/31/96 | 8/31/96 | 9/30/96 | 10/31/96 | 11/30/96 | 12/31/96 | 12/31/96 | 12/31/97 | 12/31/98 | 12/31/99 | 12/31/00 |
| Revenue (Notes 2 and 4): | \$5,000 | \$7,000 | \$10,000 | \$14,000 | \$20,000 | \$26,000 | \$34,000 | \$44,000 | \$57,000 | \$68,000 | \$82,000 | \$98,000 | \$465,000 | \$976,500 | \$1,708,900 | \$2,734,200 | \$3,827,900 |
| Cost of sales (Note 5): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries and wages | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 84,000 | 147,000 | 205,800 | 257,300 | 295,900 |
| Payroll taxes & fringe benefits | 900 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 1,700 | 1,700 | 1,700 | 2,600 | 2,600 | 2,600 | 18,300 | 32,000 | 44,800 | 56,000 | 64,400 |
| Product costs | 1,500 | 2,100 | 3,000 | 4,200 | 6,000 | 7,800 | 10,200 | 13,200 | 17,100 | 20,400 | 24,600 | 29,400 | 139,500 | 244,100 | 341,700 | 427,100 | 491,200 |
| Rent expense | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 12,000 | 21,000 | 29,400 | 36,800 | 42,300 |
| Equipment leases | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 200 | 200 | 300 | 300 | 400 | 500 | 2,300 | 4,000 | 5,600 | 7,000 | 8,100 |
| Utilities | 200 | 200 | 200 | 250 | 300 | 300 | 325 | 325 | 350 | 375 | 375 | 400 | 3,600 | 6,300 | 8,800 | 11,000 | 12,700 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 310 | 310 | 310 | 310 | 310 | 310 | 500 | 500 | 690 | 690 | 690 | 690 | 5,620 | 15,000 | 22,500 | 30,000 | 37,500 |
| Total cost of sales | 7,910 | 8,510 | 9,510 | 10,760 | 12,610 | 14,410 | 21,925 | 24,925 | 29,140 | 37,365 | 41,665 | 46,590 | 265,320 | 469,400 | 658,600 | 825,200 | 952,100 |
| Gross margin (deficit) | (2,910) | (1,510) | 490 | 3,240 | 7,390 | 11,590 | 12,075 | 19,075 | 27,860 | 30,635 | 40,335 | 51,410 | 199,680 | 507,100 | 1,050,300 | 1,909,000 | 2,875,800 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses (Note 5): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Advertising | 100 | 140 | 200 | 280 | 400 | 520 | 680 | 880 | 1,140 | 1,360 | 1,640 | 1,960 | 9,300 | 19,500 | 34,200 | 54,700 | 76,600 |
| Administrative expenses | 600 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 12,600 | 22,100 | 30,900 | 38,600 | 44,400 |
| Salaries and wages | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 4,400 | 4,400 | 4,400 | 6,600 | 6,600 | 6,600 | 46,200 | 80,900 | 113,200 | 141,500 | 162,700 |
| Payroll taxes and fringe benefits | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 1,400 | 1,400 | 1,400 | 9,900 | 17,400 | 24,300 | 30,400 | 35,000 |
| Commissions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 6000 | 15000 | 26000 | 41000 | 57000 |
| Insurance | 500 | | | 500 | | | 500 | | | | | | 2,000 | 3,500 | 4,900 | 6,100 | 7,000 |
| Property tax | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 7500 | 7875 | 8269 | 8682 | |
| Amortization expense | 0 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 11000 | 12000 | 12000 | 12000 | 12000 |
| | 3,900 | 4,440 | 4,500 | 5,080 | 4,700 | 4,820 | 9,680 | 9,380 | 9,640 | 13,660 | 13,440 | 13,760 | 97,000 | 177,900 | 253,375 | 332,569 | 403,382 |
| Income from operations | (6,810) | (5,950) | (4,010) | (1,840) | 2,690 | 6,770 | 2,395 | 9,695 | 18,220 | 16,975 | 26,895 | 37,650 | 102,680 | 329,200 | 796,925 | 1,576,431 | 2,472,418 |
| Other (income) expenses: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest expense | 2,070 | 2,070 | 2,070 | 1,760 | 1,740 | 1,710 | 1,690 | 1,670 | 1,640 | 1,620 | 1,590 | 1,570 | 21,200 | 16,900 | 12,900 | 8,600 | 3,700 |
| Interest income | (100) | (100) | (100) | (90) | (90) | (90) | (80) | (80) | (80) | (80) | (80) | (80) | (1,050) | (1,800) | (2,500) | (3,100) | (3,600) |
| | 1,970 | 1,970 | 1,970 | 1,670 | 1,650 | 1,620 | 1,610 | 1,590 | 1,560 | 1,540 | 1,510 | 1,490 | 20,150 | 15,100 | 10,400 | 5,500 | 100 |
| Income before provision for income taxes | (8,780) | (7,920) | (5,980) | (3,510) | 1,040 | 5,150 | 785 | 8,105 | 16,660 | 15,435 | 25,385 | 36,160 | 82,530 | 214,100 | 786,525 | 1,570,931 | 2,472,318 |
| Provision for income taxes (Note 1): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current federal and state income taxes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 1,000 | 200 | 1,600 | 3,300 | 3,100 | 5,100 | 7,200 | 16,500 | 125,600 | 314,600 | 628,400 | 988,900 |
| Net income (loss) | (\$8,780) | (\$7,920) | (\$5,980) | (\$3,510) | \$840 | \$4,150 | \$585 | \$6,505 | \$13,360 | \$12,335 | \$20,285 | \$28,960 | \$66,030 | \$188,500 | \$471,925 | \$942,531 | \$1,483,418 |
| Retained earnings, beginning of period | 0 | (8,780) | (16,700) | (22,680) | (26,190) | (25,350) | (21,200) | (20,615) | (14,110) | (750) | 11,585 | 31,870 | 0 | 66,030 | 254,530 | 720,455 | 1,608,986 |
| Retained earnings, end of period | (\$8,780) | (\$16,700) | (\$22,680) | (\$26,190) | (\$25,350) | (\$21,200) | (\$20,615) | (\$14,110) | (\$750) | \$11,585 | \$31,870 | \$60,830 | \$66,030 | \$254,530 | \$720,455 | \$1,608,986 | \$3,152,404 |

Sample – Forcasted Statements of Cash Flows

| | | Year Ending | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Year Ending | | | | |
| | | 1/31/96 | 2/28/96 | 3/31/96 | 4/30/96 | 5/31/96 | 6/30/96 | 7/31/96 | 8/31/96 | 9/30/96 | 10/31/96 | 11/30/96 | 12/31/96 | 12/31/96 | 12/31/97 | 12/31/98 | 12/31/99 | 12/31/00 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | | (\$8,780) | (\$7,920) | (\$5,980) | (\$3,510) | \$840 | \$4,150 | \$585 | \$6,505 | \$13,360 | \$12,335 | \$20,285 | \$28,960 | \$66,030 | \$188,500 | \$471,925 | \$942,531 | \$1,483,418 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | | 310 | 1,310 | 1,310 | 1,310 | 1,310 | 1,310 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,690 | 1,690 | 1,690 | 1,690 | 16,620 | 27,000 | 34,500 | 42,000 | 49,500 |
| Increase (decrease) in cash from certain working capital items: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accounts receivable | | (3,750) | (2,750) | (2,750) | (3,750) | (5,500) | (6,000) | (7,500) | (9,500) | (7,850) | (10,200) | (12,150) | (5,900) | (77,600) | (3,400) | (61,000) | (86,000) | (91,000) |
| Inventory | | (2,100) | (900) | (1,200) | (1,800) | (1,800) | (2,400) | (3,000) | (3,900) | (3,300) | (4,200) | (4,800) | (3,150) | (32,550) | (8,150) | (30,500) | (42,700) | (45,600) |
| Prepaid expenses | | (1,500) | 0 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (3,000) | (1,500) | (1,500) | (1,500) |
| Accounts payable | | 2,000 | 0 | 600 | 900 | 700 | 1,000 | 2,400 | 1,300 | 2,100 | 2,400 | 2,000 | 2,600 | 18,000 | 3,400 | 9,200 | 8,800 | 7,300 |
| Accrued expenses | | 700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 600 | 0 | 0 | 700 | 0 | 0 | 2,000 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 1,100 | 800 |
| Federal and state income taxes | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 1,000 | 200 | 1,600 | 3,300 | 3,100 | 5,100 | 7,200 | 21,700 | 9,700 | 47,250 | 78,450 | 90,125 |
| Total adjustments | | (4,340) | (2,340) | (2,040) | (2,840) | (5,090) | (5,090) | (5,300) | (9,000) | (4,060) | (6,010) | (8,160) | 2,440 | (51,830) | 26,650 | (850) | 150 | 9,625 |
| Net cash provided by (used for) operations | | (13,120) | (10,260) | (8,020) | (6,350) | (4,250) | (940) | (4,715) | (2,495) | 9,300 | 6,325 | 12,125 | 31,400 | 14,200 | 215,150 | 471,075 | 942,681 | 1,493,043 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purchase of property and equipment | | (37,500) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (22,500) | 0 | (22,500) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (82,500) | (67,500) | (75,000) | (75,000) | (75,000) |
| Payment for organizational costs | | (60,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (60,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net cash used for investing activities | | (97,500) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (22,500) | 0 | (22,500) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (142,500) | (67,500) | (75,000) | (75,000) | (75,000) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proceed from long-term debt | | 200,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Repayment of amounts borrowed | | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1,695) | (2,639) | (2,639) | (2,662) | (2,686) | (2,709) | (2,732) | (2,757) | (2,781) | (20,661) | (35,329) | (39,223) | (43,546) | (48,345) |
| Proceeds from sale of common stock | | 400,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities | | 600,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1,695) | (2,639) | (2,662) | (2,686) | (2,709) | (2,732) | (2,757) | (2,781) | 579,339 | (35,329) | (39,223) | (43,546) | (48,345) |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash | | 489,380 | (10,260) | (8,020) | (6,350) | (5,945) | (3,579) | (29,877) | (5,181) | (15,909) | 3,593 | 9,368 | 28,619 | 451,039 | 112,321 | 356,852 | 824,135 | 1,369,698 |
| Cash at beginning of period | | 0 | 489,380 | 479,120 | 471,100 | 464,750 | 458,805 | 455,226 | 425,349 | 420,168 | 404,259 | 407,852 | 417,220 | 0 | 451,039 | 563,360 | 920,212 | 1,744,347 |
| Cash at end of period | | \$489,380 | \$479,120 | \$471,100 | \$464,750 | \$458,805 | \$455,226 | \$425,349 | \$420,168 | \$404,259 | \$407,852 | \$417,220 | \$445,839 | \$451,039 | \$563,360 | \$920,212 | \$1,744,347 | \$3,114,045 |

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